

Message Text

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50

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 AID-20 RSR-01 L-03

/104 W

----- 100045

R 181132 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7583

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 2774

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, BY, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN REACTIONS TO BURUNDI EVENTS

REF: BUJUMBURA 484

1. COMMUNIQUE FROM BELGIAN CHRISTIAN TRADE UNION (CSC) ON BURUNDI EVENTS CARRIED BY PRESS MAY 16. COMMUNIQUE FORMALLY DENIES THAT BELGIAN CSC PARTICIPATED IN OR SUPPORTED ANY PLOT OR MILITARY ACTION IN BURUNDI AT ANY TIME, INCLUDING EVENTS OF 1961, 1965, 1969, AND 1973. SUCH ACCUSATIONS DESCRIBED AS BEING MADE BY FEUDAL BURUNDI REGIME TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM ODIIOUS CRIMES OF WHICH IT HAS BEEN GUILTY SINCE 1961 AGAINST THOSE WHO SEEK TO ESTABLISH IN THAT COUNTRY RESPECT FOR RIGHTS OF MAN, LIBERTY, AND DEMOCRACY. COMMUNIQUE RECALLS THAT IN MAY 1972 CSC AND CHRISTIAN LABOR MOVEMENT PROTESTED EXTERMINATIONS IN BURUNDI AND CALLED ON GOB TO WITHDRAW MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND BELGIAN JUDGES AND TO SUSPEND FINANCIAL AID.

2. FONOFF SPOKESMAN ON MAY 16 GAVE PRESS BRIEF REVIEW OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BURUNDI EVENTS CONFORMING TO REPORTS FROM EMBASSIES
BUJUMBURA AND KIGALI. SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT GOB
INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT INSURGENTS ASSISTED BY " LEADERS COMING
FROM ABROAD," POSSIBLY INCLUDING BURUNDI STUDENTS OR REFUGEES
LIVING IN BELGIUM.

3. BELGIAN PRESS SO FAR HAS NOT TREATED BURUNDI EVENTS IN
SENSATIONAL MANNER (BUJUMBURA 487). EDITORIAL COMMENT,
HOWEVER, CLEARLY ON SIDE OF REBELS.
STRAUSZ- HUPE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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